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09/536,053	03/27/2000	Michael K. Just	0500.9912151	5651

7590 01/02/2004

Markison & Reckamp PC  
P O Box 06229  
Wacker Drive  
Chicago, IL 60606-0229

EXAMINER
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CURCIO, JAMES A F

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2132

DATE MAILED: 01/02/2004

2

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/536,053

Applicant(s)

JUST, MICHAEL K.

Examiner

James Curcio

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 March 2000.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-38 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-38 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Claim Objections***

1. The numbering of claims is not in accordance with 37 CFR 1.126 which requires the original numbering of the claims to be preserved throughout the prosecution. When claims are canceled, the remaining claims must not be renumbered. When new claims are presented, they must be numbered consecutively beginning with the number next following the highest numbered claims previously presented (whether entered or not).

Misnumbered claims 35 (2<sup>nd</sup> instance), 36, 37, and 38 have been renumbered 36, 37, 38, and 39 respectively.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-6, 9-14, 17-25, 28-34, and 37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Chan et al (US20020019941A1).

3. As per claims 1, 17, 20, and 29, Chan et al discloses the determination of a digital signature verification error (see page 8, second column, third paragraph; page 9, first column, first paragraph; and page 10, first column, second paragraph) and the generation of a digital signature verification map (see page 8, first column, third paragraph and page 9, second column, third and fourth paragraphs).

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4. As per claims 2, 5, 21, 24, 30, and 33, in addition to the teachings applied above, Chan et al discloses the storage, receipt, and digital signature verification map update of at least one acceptable message header identifier, which becomes a map entry (see page 8, first column, third paragraph, last sentence and page 10, first column, first and second paragraphs).

5. As per claims 3, 22, and 31, in addition to the teachings applied above, Chan et al discloses that the generation step includes mapping the plurality of acceptable message header identifiers on a per certificate subject identification basis (see page 8, first column, third paragraph).

6. As per claims 4, 10, 12, 18, 23, and 32, in addition to the teachings applied above, Chan et al discloses the verification of a digital signature associated with received message information (see page 8, second column, third paragraph; page 9, first column, first paragraph; page 9, second column, third paragraph; and page 10, first column, second paragraph).

7. As per claims 6, 14, 25, and 34, in addition to the teachings applied above, Chan et al discloses that the message header identifier includes at least one of data representing a sender's email address, telephone number, and unit identifier (page 8, first column, third paragraph; page 9, second column, second paragraph; and page 9, second column, third paragraph, second sentence).

8. As per claims 9, 11, 13, 19, 28, and 37, in addition to the teachings applied above, Chan et al discloses that the determination of a digital signature verification error includes the comparison of a public key certificate identifier with the message header

identifier (see page 8, second column, third paragraph), the generation of a mismatch notification (see "appropriate error code" on page 8, second column, third paragraph, second sentence), and the verification of a digital signature based on a verification key associated with the public key certificate identifier (See the certificate of the stated message source and SID based on this certificate on page 8, first column, third paragraph; page 8, second column, third paragraph; and page 9, first column, first paragraph. Also see the digital signature of the message that ensures the authenticity of the message source and has a verification key ensured by the above certificate on page 9, second column, third paragraph and page 10, first column, second paragraph.).

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

9. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

10. Claims 7, 15, 26, and 35 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chan et al (US20020019941A1). Chan et al discloses the determination of a digital signature verification error (see page 8, second column, third paragraph; page 9, first column, first paragraph; and page 10, first column, second paragraph) and the generation of a digital signature verification map (see page 8, first column, third paragraph and page 9, second column, third and fourth paragraphs). Chan et al also discloses the storage, receipt, and digital signature verification map update of at least one acceptable message header identifier, which becomes a map entry (see page 8,

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first column, third paragraph, last sentence and page 10, first column, first and second paragraphs). Chan et al additionally discloses the verification of a digital signature associated with received message information (see page 8, second column, third paragraph; page 9, first column, first paragraph; page 9, second column, third paragraph; and page 10, first column, second paragraph). Chan et al also discloses that the determination of a digital signature verification error includes the comparison of a public key certificate identifier with the message header identifier (see page 8, second column, third paragraph), the generation of a mismatch notification (see "appropriate error code" on page 8, second column, third paragraph, second sentence), and the verification of a digital signature based on a verification key associated with the public key certificate identifier (See the certificate of the stated message source and SID based on this certificate on page 8, first column, third paragraph; page 8, second column, third paragraph; and page 9, first column, first paragraph. Also see the digital signature of the message that ensures the authenticity of the message source and has a verification key ensured by the above certificate on page 9, second column, third paragraph and page 10, first column, second paragraph.).

Chan et al fails to expressly disclose the digital signature of the digital signature verification map. However, Chan et al does disclose the digital signature of an email message to ensure that the message is trustworthy, that it originates from the trusted message sender listed in the "from" field (see page 9, second column, third paragraph).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method of Chan et al by applying Chan et

al's signature technique to the digital signature verification map ("restricted token") containing the acceptable message header identifiers ("restricted SIDs"). One of ordinary skill in the art would have motivated to do in order to ensure that modifications to the digital signature verification map originate from a trustworthy source (see page 9, second column, third paragraph, second sentence).

11. Claims 8, 16, 27, 36, 38, and 39 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chan et al (US20020019941A1) as applied to claims 1, 10, 20, and 29 above, and further in view of Cooper et al (US006052442A). Chan et al discloses the determination of a digital signature verification error (see Chan et al---page 8, second column, third paragraph; page 9, first column, first paragraph; and page 10, first column, second paragraph) and the generation of a digital signature verification map (see Chan et al---page 8, first column, third paragraph and page 9, second column, third and fourth paragraphs). Chan et al also discloses the storage, receipt, and digital signature verification map update of at least one acceptable message header identifier, which becomes a map entry (see Chan et al---page 8, first column, third paragraph, last sentence and page 10, first column, first and second paragraphs). Chan et al additionally discloses the verification of a digital signature associated with received message information (see Chan et al---page 8, second column, third paragraph; page 9, first column, first paragraph; page 9, second column, third paragraph; and page 10, first column, second paragraph).

Chan et al fails to expressly disclose the generation of a trusted alias map and the display of at least one subject alias. However, Cooper et al discloses these features

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(see "directory", "display", and "mnemonic tag" in Cooper et al---page 9, first column, second and sixth paragraphs and column 10, first paragraph).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method of Chan et al by generating a trusted alias map relating Chan et al's URLs or sender email addresses to corresponding mnemonic aliases and by displaying these aliases in place of the same URLs and sender email addresses. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do so in order to facilitate the identification of Chan et al's message sources.

### ***Conclusion***

12. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

- a. Gennaro et al (US006292897B1)
- b. Musgrave et al (US006202151B1)
- c. Vatanen et al (US 20030078058A1)
- d. Miettinen et al (US 20020138729A1)

13. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to James Curcio whose telephone number is 703-305-8887. The examiner can normally be reached on Tuesday through Friday from 7:00 am – 5:30 pm.

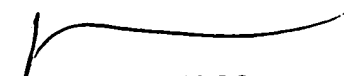
14. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gilberto Barron can be reached at 703-305-1830. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.



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15. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3900.

JC  
December 19, 2003



**THOMAS R. PEESO**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**